Australian Roof Bolt System

3625. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Australian Roof Bolt' system is offered to India ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and decision taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) and (b) A proposal has been received from a joint venture of two Australian companies for introduction of roof enforcement technology in selected underground mines of Coal India Limited (CIL). The proposal envisages introduction of this technology in eleven mines of CIL over a period of thirty months at a cost of approximately Rs. fifty crores. A part of the foreign component of the project may be financed as grant by the Australian Government. The proposal has been referred back to Coal India Limited for preparation of a regular project report incorporating inter alia the financial economic analysis of the mines in which the new technology is proposed to be introduced.

Amount paid to States on account of sales tax, excise tax on sale etc. through CIL

3626. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to stae the details of actual figures of Sales Tax, Excise Tax on sale etc. that have been paid to diffrent States through Coal India Ltd. during 1992-93.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries have paid sales tax to different State Governments for the year 1992-93 as under :

(Rs. in crores)

State	Sales tax paid for 1992-93
West Bengal	26.35
Bihar	40.75
Orissa	11.00
Maharashtra	24.03
Madhya Pradesh	48.34
Uttar Pradesh	17.91
Assam	0.99
TOTAL	169.37

Excise duty on coal is levied under provisions of Coal Mines(Conservation and Development Act, 1974 an proceeds of the duty are to be utilised for the purposes specified in the said Act. These are not directly payable to the State Govts.

Unsound financial status of U.S. Company holding Nayveli's 8th Unit

3627. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATARAMAN:
SHRI J. S. RAJU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government are aware of the fact that the private U.S. Company which has been given Neyveli's 8th Unit is not sound in its financial status and the firms cheques issued in U.S.A. were bounced;